

attacks, making each more spectacular and horrific than its predecessor.

Dr. Allison is also a leading analyst of Russia and its transformation to democracy and market economy as well as an authority on the threat of loose nukes and weapons of mass destruction. He has written numerous articles and op-eds in the foremost journals and newspapers and is a sought-after speaker and commentator. Dr. Allison's seminal book, *Essence of Decision: Explaining the Cuban Missile Crisis*, first published in 1971, and significantly revised and re-issued in 1999, ranks among the bestsellers in political science with more than 350,000 copies in print.

Dr. Allison was born and raised in Charlotte, North Carolina. He was educated at Davidson College; Harvard College (B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, in History); Oxford University (B.A. and M.A., First Class Honors in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics); and Harvard University (Ph.D. in Political Science).

TRIBUTE TO THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TUSCOLA COUNTY FAIR

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, July 23rd through July 29th will mark the 125th anniversary of the Tuscola County Fair. Since 1881, the fair has been an annual tradition of family and friends in the greater Tuscola County area. It is the oldest on-going event in Tuscola County. To celebrate the anniversary, the community is holding a barbeque on Sunday in Caro Michigan to kick off this year's celebration.

From the beginning the fair was a success. The Caro District Agricultural Society organized the first fair to allow the local farmers and merchants to display their produce, livestock, handicrafts, merchandise and machinery. One of the popular entertainments of the day was harness racing and in 1892 the clay track was completed so that sulky races could be run. Two years later the first grandstand, seating 1500 people, was finished. It was adjacent to the track and also had a wooden stage.

After purchasing the land from the Van Winkle family in 1895, the fair continued to grow. Buildings were constructed over the years including Heritage Hall, the swine and cattle barns, the 4-H horse barn, the merchants' display hall, and the fair offices. In 1920 Michigan Sugar Company provided the first electricity to the fair. After being destroyed by fire twice the grandstand was rebuilt both times. The state highway department built a park with picnic tables and a covered water fountain for fair patrons. Later the village expanded this park and added a swimming pool and tennis courts. During World War II the fair grounds operated as a prisoner of war camp. The German prisoners housed at fair grounds worked at the Michigan Sugar Company. After the war ended, it was the center of Tuscola County celebrations welcoming home their returning veterans. Utilized year round, the fairgrounds have been the site of several festivals, trade shows, educational programs, and athletic events.

The spirit of the Tuscola County Fair is embodied in the people that have attended year after year. They have brought their best livestock, canned goods, flowers, needlework, crafts, and produce to display. The fair is an opportunity to socialize, to be entertained, to be inspired and to be educated.

Agricultural fairs in the United States played a significant role in developing a sense of community and spurring innovation. Agriculture was the largest domestic industry in the 19th century and the agricultural fair was the primary means to showcase the ingenuity of American farmers producing an abundant harvest. Innovations first demonstrated at a fair are now part of everyday agricultural and livestock production worldwide. Agricultural fairs have historically promoted three core values: education, community celebration, and youth development. The Tuscola County Fair is no exception. The partnership between the fair, 4-H, the community of Caro, educational institutions and local business is the central component to the fair's longevity and vitality.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in commending the members of the Tuscola County Fair Association for their tireless work preserving and supporting a piece of America's living history. The fair continues to challenge farmers to increase our bounty and every American has benefited from their skill in rising to that challenge.

TRIBUTE TO THE JOHN W. STEVENSON MASONIC LODGE NO. 56

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I am honoring the John W. Stevenson Masonic Lodge No. 56, Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons, for their scholarship program and their support, encouragement, and education of today's youth. On July 23rd the Lodge will present scholarships to four high school students at their annual banquet in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

The theme of this year's banquet is "Investing in Our Youth to Guarantee Our Future." The 53 members of the Lodge work throughout the year to raise money for the College Scholarship Fund. Their goal is to help as many young people as possible achieve their dreams of a better life. The Lodge members have established the cornerstones of high morals, good character, and sound education for a solid foundation in life. They view the scholarship fund as a means to assist young people in building upon that foundation.

The members distribute the applications throughout Genesee County and students are awarded the scholarships based upon several factors including greatest financial need. This year the recipients are all graduating seniors but the program is also open to students working for advanced degrees.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending the members of the John W. Stevenson Lodge No. 56 for their exemplary work on behalf of the young men and women of the greater Flint area. Since the Lodge was founded in 1968,

the men of the John W. Stevenson Lodge have dedicated themselves to ensuring all youth are able to fulfill their potential.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF IRENE L. JAMES, ESQ.

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to honor the memory and legacy of Irene L. James who passed away on Tuesday, July 4, 2006. Her death leaves a deep void in the Greater Newark community.

Irene was known for her caring spirit and her service to others. She was creative, passionate and intelligent. Her intellect led her to Rutgers University in Newark where she earned both her under-graduate and law degrees. Over the years, she would hold several roles that allowed her to utilize her talents to enrich the lives of others. A prolific writer, Irene was able to secure grants and/or technological enhancements for many programs and institutions. In fact, Irene is credited with procuring a three million dollar grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to create a "fighting back" sight in Newark. This program's mission was to help decrease the demand for alcohol, tobacco and other drugs for women and children. Irene served with distinction in administrative positions at Essex County College, CHOICES, Inc., Newark Welfare and Newark Fighting Back.

During her life, Irene touched many lives with her kindness, thoughtfulness and humor. She will be remembered for making a difference in the lives of those fortunate enough to benefit from her years of public service. Irene was a profound believer in social justice and was able to associate with many others who felt likewise.

As Irene's life was celebrated during her "Home going" service on Wednesday, July 12, 2006, many recalled the impact she made in the community, her competency and professionalism. They remembered that she came from a family of achievers, including my Chief of Staff, Maxine James, her father, Mack James, sister, Jeanette Parham and her brother, Michael James.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in letting Irene L. James' family, friends and associates know that her memory will always be honored and cherished.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, due to delays on Amtrak, I regretfully missed rollcall votes 375–377. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: rollcall No. 375—"Yea", rollcall No. 376—"Yea", rollcall No. 377—"Yea".